

**DODGE COUNTY
LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
September 4, 2015**

Call to order: Meeting was called to order by Chair, MaryAnn Miller, at 8:00 a.m.; a quorum was established with the following members present:

MaryAnn Miller
Darrell Pollesch
Lisa Derr
Larry Bischoff
Larry Schraufnagel

Also Present: James Mielke, County Administrator; John Storck, Circuit Court Judge; Joseph Sciascia, Circuit Court Judge; Lynn Hron, Clerk of Courts; Kurt Klomberg, District Attorney; Bob Barrington, District Attorney Managing Attorney; Bernie Mueller, Child Support Agency; Dale Schmidt, Dodge County Sheriff; Scott Smith, Chief Deputy, Sheriff's Office; Patrick Schoebel, Medical Examiner; Steven Seim, Family Court Commissioner; Bridget Hill, Restorative Justice; Barb Brandt, Br. 4 Judicial Assistant.

Miller certifies compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

Approval of Agenda and Allow for Deviation: Motion made by Schraufnagel to approve Agenda and to allow for deviation; second by Bischoff. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Bischoff to approve Minutes of August 7, 2015; second by Schraufnagel. Motion carried.

Communications: None

Announcements: None

Circuit Court/Judge's Report: 4 applications were received for the guardian ad litem position vacated by Julie Wilhelm. Jill Lake and Sean Donohue will each be assigned 1/8 of GAL appointments. They both started on August 18.

There is a group with representatives from the District Attorney's Office, High School and Judge Storck, who will be attending an Alcohol Court training in Madison. This is a 2.5 day seminar on treatment court standards. Chair Miller had questions regarding how multiple OWI's are now counted which were answered by both Sheriff Schmidt and DA Klomberg.

Judge Storck gave the Committee a detailed Memorandum covering the effect of Unemployment Compensation in the alcohol court budget unit and the indigent counselor budget as basis for his upcoming request for transfer of funds between business units. He explained that the amount of the State's grant to the Courts is determined by how much is collected by the State. Dodge County received more from the State than anticipated for the first payment this year. Register in Probate fees and Guardian ad Litem collections are up and costs

are less in the Family Court Commissioner areas. He believes there will be a request for transfer of funds and this will probably be on the next county board agenda.

The Drainage Board is under the Court because the Court appoints the members although their operating expenses are funded separately.

The amount of the Circuit Court grant from the state is unknown at this time, and every year it is hoped that the second payment of \$150,000 will be forthcoming

Judge Storck will be speaking at the three day Court Technology Conference that is being held this year in the Twin Cities. He will be speaking on the CCAP Dashboard. He hopes to bring back information on other court technology.

Judge Storck introduced Bridget Hill, the new head of Restorative Justice, who will be making today's informative presentation. It is hoped to move her office from the Administration Building to the Courthouse. There is an office behind the jury assembly room that they hope to use.

Child Support Report: Bernie Mueller handed the Committee a copy of her budget. She explained the overage in business unit 5475 because of a telephone replacement that IT implemented that she hadn't known about. Notary bond fees were another item of increase but this was not a large amount.

Clerk of Courts Report: Lynn Hron explained the new method for calling in a jury panel. Instead of a month, jurors will only be required to be on a panel for one week, unless a trial would be scheduled for more than that. The one month calendar created hardships for many jurors so this one week has been received very well by them so far. Her Chief Deputy, Michelle, is monitoring the calendar for sending out the juror notices.

Text messaging to remind jurors of jury duty was just turned on this week. These texts go directly to their cell phones as a reminder of a jury trial. Again, Michelle was instrumental in putting this together.

The Clerk of Courts Office is making changes in order to have documents filed put in cases so that they show up clearly on the Judges' Judicial Dashboards. This new Dashboard has only been released in two counties so far, Dodge and Barron Counties.

District Attorney Report: Bob Barrington reported that the District Attorney Office is completely on budget for 2015. His office only has two business units, the DA Office and the Victim Witness unit, which is mainly salaries and benefits. The DA's office receives reimbursement from the State for a percentage of Victim Witness costs and also receives funds for prosecuting crimes that are committed in the 4 State institutions located in Dodge County. None of that income is posted yet for this year.

Bob complimented Lynn Hron and her office for the work they are doing to collect restitution surcharges. They are working to have restitution and costs paid through the Dodge County Clerk of Courts Office as opposed through Probation & Parole. DA Klomberg expressed concern for getting this restitution for victims and that this can now be collected by tax intercepts.

Bob explained that another way the DA office is seeking to lower costs is by having people on whom a subpoena is served call in to acknowledge receipt of that subpoena. This saves staff

time along with paper and postage costs and is still sufficient for a judge to issue a witness warrant should a witness fail to appear at a hearing or jury trial.

Kurt updated the Committee on a criminal procedure update which is Senate Bill 83 and Assembly Bill 90. This has been in the works for a number of years and is being worked on again. There are parts to these bills that will have an effect on evidence storage if it is passed. He wanted to give the Committee a heads-up because there will be a direct impact on all counties. He suggested that the County Association attorneys may want to review these bills because it will effect everyone. Kurt is on the trial procedure team that is review part of this and he explained how some of these details will also have a large impact on both prosecutors and defense attorneys.

Medical Examiner Report: ME Schoebel had to be excused early from this meeting and will make his report next month.

Sheriff Office Report: Sheriff Schmidt thanked the Committee for their attendance at the finance meeting. He pointed out to the Committee Scott Smith's article in the LENS newsletter keeping employees updated on the budget.

He gave an update on Intrado and the 911 system. It is installed but there are some bugs to work out.

He informed the Committee that the sex offenders are no longer placed in Brownsville. Hearings took place in July and August that revoked that placement plan.

Both the Sheriff and Scott Smith detailed the decrease factors in contract beds in the jail and how those lower numbers have had a significant impact on the budget. The budget had been projected using 240 contract beds with the actual number being around 223. The jail has a total bed capacity of 465 that does not include offenders on electronic monitoring.

There are many factors in the budget process that the department has no control over. Civil process revenues are also down. In order to offset these deficits, a number of positions in the department were not filled including 4 in the jail, one patrol and one dispatch position. The bottom line will be an approximate \$340,000 deficit factoring in both the loss of revenue and savings.

The Sheriff handed to the Committee a comparison chart with 16 other comparable counties/facilities that showed that the Dodge County Detention Facility is efficiently run

On a positive note, the jail received a grant for \$248,000 which was used for an upgrade to broadcast messages on the TV system, gym equipment and foreign language books. While this did not have an effect on the budget, it went for capital improvements that did not have to be paid for.

Sheriff Schmidt has put before the Committee a Resolution for the additional of an additional communications officer and one deputy sheriff who would be assigned to the Drug Task Force. He detailed the work that dispatch handles having integrated all the local departments now being handled through Dodge County Dispatch, including administrative calls, 911 calls and radio traffic. With the area increase in drug traffic, another officer is needed in that area. Motion was made by Schraufnagel to approve this resolution with a second by Bischoff. No further discussion. Motion carried.

The Sheriff's Citizen Academy still has a few openings with a start date of September 16, 2015.

Issues with New World are still trying to be resolved and the Sheriff hopes to provide a more complete update next month.

Recess at 9:35

Reconvene at 9:38

Other business: The informational presentation was made at this meeting by Bridget Hill, the new head of Restorative Justice. She has been in this part-time position for 90 days and the following are areas that she has been working on:

- Putting together an anti-bullying program. The elementary school in Randolph will start with this program for 4-6 graders.
- A transition program from jail to community
- Juvenile offender accountability conferences
- Shelter for those homeless who are not able to go to a current shelter because of a felony conviction.
- Putting together a sex offender information program for communities.
- Victim/offender counseling

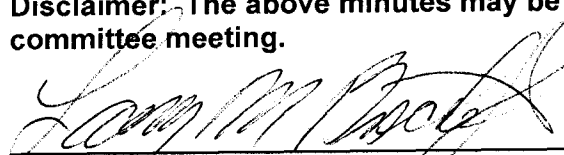
She gets referrals from schools and law enforcement amount others.

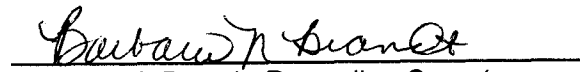
She also runs the Victim Impact Panels which are now being held every month. She has been able to get some great speakers for these programs. Dates and times for these are listed on the Restorative Justice Facebook page.

Next Meeting: Friday, October 2, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. at the Dodge County Justice Facility.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned by Chair Miller at 10:15 a.m..

Disclaimer: The above minutes may be approved, amended or corrected at the next committee meeting.


Larry M. Bischoff, Secretary


Barbara N. Brandt, Recording Secretary